



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/644,764	08/23/2000	Deborah Tate Welsh	30010-A	2695

27148 7590 11/30/2004

POLSINELLI SHALTON WELTE SUELTHAUS P.C.
700 W. 47TH STREET
SUITE 1000
KANSAS CITY, MO 64112-1802

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, DUSTIN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2154

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/644,764	Applicant(s) WELSH, DEBORAH TATE	
	Examiner Dustin Nguyen	Art Unit 2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 September 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 8-11, 14-16, 23, 24 and 26-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 8-11, 14-16, 23, 24 and 26-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 8-11, 14-16, 23, 24, 26-30 are presented for consideration.

Double Patenting

2. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 8-11, 14-16, 23, 24, 26-30 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1, 6-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,792,465 [hereinafter as '465 patent]. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they are claiming common subject matter as follow:

Taking claim 11 as an exemplary claim, the '465 patent contains the subject matter claimed in the instant application. As per claim 11, both are claiming common subject matter, as follows:

Art Unit: 2154

A computer program stored on a computer-readable memory device for operating a computer to aid in locating lost pets, the computer program comprising:

- a code segment for receiving ...;
- a code segment for storing ...;
- a code segment for permitting ...;
- a code segment for comparing ...; and
- a code segment for providing

The claim of '465 patent does not specifically disclose the claimed invention in the same order step as described in the claim 11 of instant application but it would have been obvious to a person skill in the art to recognize that the two claims are similar because it would enable to find lost pet more efficiently by using computer network.

As per independent claims 16, 26 and 28, they are also directed to the same subject matter recited in claim 11 above. Accordingly, they are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

As per dependent claims 8-10, 14, 15, 23, 24, 27, 29, 30, they are depending on rejected claims, they are provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting.

Art Unit: 2154

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 28-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Longo et al. [US Patent No 5,912,956], in view of Shorrock et al. [US Patent No 6,283,065].

5. As per claim 28, Longo discloses the invention substantially as claimed including a rabies tag comprising:

a body including a first [Figure 2] and a second side [Figure 3], the second side including information for accessing a host computer on a communications network in order to enter the rabies information from the first side of the body relating to the pet [Figures 1, 7-9; Abstract; and col 1, lines 61-col 2, lines 7].

Longo does not specifically disclose the first side including rabies information.

Shorrock discloses the first side including rabies information [col 1, lines 21-26; and col 3, lines 64-col 4, lines 20].

It would have been obvious to a person skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teaching of Longo and Shorrock because Shorrock's teaching of rabies information on the first side would provide detail information to identify lost pet in a more efficient manner.

Art Unit: 2154

6. As per claim 29, Longo discloses wherein the information for accessing a host computer includes, an address for the host computer [col 1, lines 61-col 2, lines 7].

7. As per claim 30, Shorrock discloses wherein the rabies information comprises information selected from the group consisting of a veterinarian's name for the pet, the veterinarian's phone number, alphanumeric characters, and a year [i.e. medical record] [col 1, lines 14-26; and col 4, lines 21-31].

19. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 8-11, 14-16, 23, 24, 26-30 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

20. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire **3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days** from the mail date of this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response will result in **ABANDONMENT** of the application (see 35 U.S.C 133, M.P.E.P 710.02, 710.02(b)).


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dustin Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-5321. The examiner can normally be reached on flex.

Art Unit: 2154

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Follansbee John can be reached on (703) 305-8498. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


JOHN FOLLANSBEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

Dustin Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 2154